

TITLE

**Surface Treatment of Ethylene-based Polymer Pellets to Improve
Blocking Resistance**

ABSTRACT

The method of this invention for raising the stick temperature of pellets of ethylene-based copolymers with an acid content at least 5 weight percent has the steps of contacting the pellets with an aqueous solution of a water-soluble metal salt of an aliphatic acid having fewer than 12 carbon atoms, and drying the pellets. The resulting ethylene-based copolymers have a stick temperature of above 25°C and preferably at least 5°C above that of the untreated pellets.